

Washington- In an effort to improve public transportation in the Southland, Congresswoman Linda T. Sánchez secured \$400,000 for the city of Lakewood to improve the city's bus system. Sánchez secured the funds through the Transportation Appropriations bill that passed the House of Representatives today by a vote of 392-31 and is expected to be signed by the President.

"I am very pleased to have secured these funds to improve the bus system in Lakewood," said Congresswoman Sánchez. "As we encourage more people to use public transportation, it is important we make riding the bus a more appealing and attractive alternative. These funds will help give a face-lift to the Lakewood bus system and attract more riders," added Sánchez.

The funds will help pay for improvements to Lakewood's transit system by upgrading bus stop shelters. Improvements will include solar lit canopies with matching benches and trash cans at 8 locations as well as fifty new bus stop benches throughout the city. The improved features will be resistant to vandalism and graffiti, which are designed to make the bus stops more user-friendly and aesthetically pleasing to the community.

"Congresswoman Sánchez has come through again for Lakewood," said Lakewood Mayor Joe Esquivel. "We'll use this new federal funding to expand a program of bus stop improvements the city has already begun. Convenient, comfortable bus stops are helping to make public transit a workable alternative to solo commuting by car," concluded Esquivel.